

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-6. (*Canceled*)

7. (*Original*) An interactive learning system comprising:

- a. a book having a tactile page and a plurality of overlying pages overlying the tactile page, the tactile page having a selectable tactile-page object with a tactile feature, each overlying page of the plurality of overlying pages having an selectable overlying-page object with a void in register with the tactile feature;
- b. a binding connecting the tactile page and the plurality of overlying pages;
- c. a base unit having a book retainer configured to releasably retain the binding;
- d. electronic memory having stored therein data associated with the tactile feature, the selectable tactile-page object, and each selectable overlying-page object;
- e. system electronics in the base unit, the system electronics comprising:
  - i. a sensor assembly configured to sense an identity of the tactile page and each overlying page and to detect the selection of the tactile feature;
  - ii. an audio signal generator; and
  - iii. a processor operatively coupled to the electronic memory, the sensor assembly and the audio signal generator,

wherein selection of the tactile feature when the tactile page is viewable causes the audio signal generator to produce an audible signal based on the data associated with the tactile feature and the selectable tactile-page object, and

wherein selection of the tactile feature when one overlying page of the plurality of overlying pages is viewable causes the audio signal generator to produce an audible signal based on the data associated with the tactile feature and the selectable overlying-page object.

8. (*Original*) An interactive learning system comprising:

- a. a book having a first page overlying a second page with a selectable object having a tactile feature, the first page having a void in register with the tactile feature;
- b. a binding connecting the first page to the second page;
- c. electronic memory having stored therein data associated with the tactile feature;
- d. a base unit having a book retainer configured to releasably retain the binding;
- e. system electronics in the base unit, the system electronics comprising:
  - i. a selection sensor configured to detect the selection of the tactile feature;
  - ii. an audio signal generator; and
  - iii. a processor operatively coupled to the electronic memory, the selection sensor and the audio signal generator,

wherein selection of the tactile feature causes the audio signal generator to produce an audible signal based on the data associated with the tactile feature.

9. *(Original)* The interactive learning system according to claim 8, wherein the binding comprises an elongated binding base having a plurality of rings engaging the first and second pages, the elongated base having a tab at one end and first and second outwardly facing side surfaces with a slot, and the book retainer comprises a binding receiving slot having a detent at one end and opposed first and second side walls, the detent configured for receiving the tab, each side wall having a tang configured for a snap-fit insertion in the corresponding slot in the first and second outwardly facing side surfaces of the elongated base.

10. *(Original)* The interactive learning system according to claim 9, wherein the plurality of rings have a generally D-shape.

11. *(Original)* An interactive learning system comprising:

- a. a book having at least one selectable object with a tactile feature;
- b. a base unit having a book well with a book retainer configured to releasably retain the book, the book well having an upwardly facing surface with a plurality of selectable book-well graphics;

- c. electronic memory having stored therein data associated with the tactile feature and the plurality of selectable book-well graphics;
- d. system electronics in the base unit, the system electronics comprising:
  - i. a selection sensor configured to detect the selection of the at least one selectable object when the book is releasably retained by the book retainer and to detect selection of one book-well graphic of the plurality of selectable book-well graphics when the book is not in the book well;
  - ii. an audio signal generator; and
  - iii. a processor operatively coupled to the electronic memory, the selection sensor and the audio signal generator,

wherein selection of the tactile feature causes the audio signal generator to produce an audible signal based on the data associated with the tactile feature, and wherein selection of the one book-well graphic causes the audio signal generator to produce an audible signal based on the data associated with the selected book-well graphic.

12. (*Original*) The interactive learning system according to claim 11, wherein the plurality of selectable book-well graphics include keys simulating a musical keyboard.

13. (*New*) An interactive learning system comprising:

- a. a book having a first page overlying a second page with a selectable object having a tactile feature, the first page having a void in register with the tactile feature, a selectable overlying-page object, and an optically readable page identifier;
- b. a base unit having a book well configured to receive the book, the book well having a plurality of selectable graphics;
- c. system electronics in the base unit, the system electronics comprising:
  - i. electronic memory having stored therein data associated with the tactile feature, the selectable overlying-page object and the selectable graphics;
  - ii. an optical sensor configured to irradiate and detect the page identifier;
  - iii. a selection sensor configured to detect the selection of the tactile feature, the selectable overlying-page object, and one graphic of the plurality of selectable graphics;

- iv. an audio signal generator; and
- v. control electronics operatively coupled to the electronic memory, the optical sensor, the selection sensor and the audio signal generator, the control electronics configured to cause the audio signal generator to produce an audible signal based on the data associated with the tactile feature when the tactile feature is selected, to produce another audible signal associated with the selectable overlying-page object when the selectable overlying-page object is selected, and to produce a graphic related audible signal when the book is not in the book well and the one graphic is selected.

14. (*New*) The learning system of claim 13, wherein the selection sensor comprises a plurality of at least touch-responsive, mutually adjoining sensors organized in a two-dimensional array, the array being formed by separate and separated first and second sets of generally parallel, individual conductive lines transversely crossing over each other beneath an upper surface of the book well, a radio frequency oscillating signal generator cyclically coupled to individual conductive lines of the first set; and a synchronous detection circuit operatively coupled with the generator and with individual conductive lines of the second set to identify user selected individual cross-points of the first and second sets of lines of the array; and

the optical sensor comprises a plurality of optical emitter and optical detector pairs controlled and synchronized with the operation of the selection sensor by an optical switch and gate under the control of the control electronics in the housing.